

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00995 132123Z

65-60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPR-02 AID-05 DODE-00 PM-03 CU-04 OMB-01

EB-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 /043 W

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P 132046Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9035

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0995

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID BB

SUBJ: GOD REQUESTS ASSISTANCE

1. AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED PERSONAL LETTER FROM DOMINICA PREMIER PATRICK R. JOHN ASKING FOR USG ASSISTANCE FOR TWO BODIES, A VOCATIONAL SCHOOL AND DOMINICA DEFENSE FORCE. PREMIER JOHN HAS ASKED IF USG COULD ASSIST IN PROVIDING BADLY-NEEDED TEACHING MATERIALS, SPECIFICALLY 20 COMMERCIAL TYPEWRITERS, TO A PRIVATE GIRLS' SCHOOL DEVOTED TO TEACHING 15-YEAR OLDS AND UPWARDS WHO HAVE NO FURTHER EDUCATIONAL OR EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS. WITH RESPECT TO DEFENSE FORCE, JOHN HAS PASSED US LIST OF ARMY EQUIPMENT WHICH HE ASKS USG TO "USE ITS BEST OFFICES" IN PROVIDING. JOHN ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE WILL BE REQUESTING SPORTS AND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AT LATER DATE.

2. VOCATIONAL SCHOOL PROJECT WOULD APPEAR TO BE APPROPRIATE SDAF SELF-HELP ACTIVITY. SCHOOLPAYS ALL COSTS OF TEACHING AND ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS. OBJECTIVE OF IMPARTING EMPLOYABLE SKILLS WOULD HAVE OBVIOUS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY. AS FAR AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, HOWEVER, OUR SDAF IS STILL LIMITED TO BARBADOS. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE AS TO IF AND WHEN SDAF FUNDS MAY BE USED IN OTHER LDC TERRITORIES SUCH AS DOMINICA.

3. WE REALIZE THAT SUPPLY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT IS COMPLEX MATTER AND THAT DOMINICA PROBABLY NOT ELIGIBLE FOR EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES, OR FOR FMS SALE OF SURPLUS ITEMS. JOHN'S LIST INCLUDES NO WEAPONS

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OR AMMUNITION AND CONSISTS MOSTLY OF WEBBING, UNIFORMS, BIVOUAC

ITEMS, COMMO GEAR, JEEPS, AND TRUCKS. NEVERTHELESS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO BE ABLE AT LEAST TO STEER DOMINICA IN RIGHT DIRECTION IF SUCH ITEMS CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH AID OR ELSEWHERE. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON (A) AVAILABILITY OF SUCH MATERIALS THROUGH USG SOURCES OR (B) SALE OF SUCH ITEMS THROUGH USG OR PRIVATE SUPPLIERS.

4. EMBASSY WILL IN MEANTIME SEND JOHN INTERIM REPLY.
BRITTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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